

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Alastair Dent

Application No.: 10/526,258

Confirmation No.: 7061

Filed On: September 12, 2005

Office: James Pilkington

Art Unit: 3656

For: Robot Head Comprising Spindle Drive

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INVENTOR'S DECLARATION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

I, the named inventor in the above-identified U.S. Patent Application, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am the named inventor in the above-captioned application. The present application was filed under 35 U.S.C. § 371 as a national phase application of PCT Application No. PCT/GB03/03354 filed on August 1, 2003, which claimed priority from UK Application No. GB0220460.0 filed on September 3, 2002 ("the UK priority application").
2. All of the activities set forth in this declaration occurred in the United Kingdom ("UK").
3. In the Final Office Action dated April 13, 2010, the Office rejected Claims 1, 3, 5-10, 15-18, 24, and 25 based in part on Harris (PCT Publication No. WO 02/060653). Harris published on August 8, 2002, only twenty-six (26) days prior to the filing date of the UK priority application.
4. Claims 1, 3, 5-10, 15-18, 24, and 25 are fully supported by the original specification of the UK priority application.
5. As demonstrated below, the invention as disclosed and claimed in Claims 1, 3, 5-10, 15-18, 24, and 25 was conceived and reduced to practice prior to the August 8, 2002 publication date of Harris.
6. On a date prior to August 8, 2002, I sent an email communication to Paula Gomes of the predecessor of the assignee, The Acrobot Company Limited ("Acrobot"). In the communication, I discussed the invention and attached a photograph of the partly assembled robot head of the

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Declaration

invention. A partially redacted copy of the email communication is attached as Exhibit A. (Compare the photograph included with Exhibit A to FIGS. 1, and 3-8 of the present application). This email shows that I conceived the invention prior to August 8, 2002.

7. On a date subsequent to the date of the letter referenced in Paragraph 7 but prior to September 3, 2002, I enclosed another photograph of the invention to Acrobat. (See Exhibit B; compare the photograph included with Exhibit B to FIG. 9 of the present application).

8. The photographs attached to Exhibits A and B illustrate a conception and an actual reduction to practice of the claimed invention prior to the critical date of August 8, 2002.

9. Although some of the dates in the exhibits have been expurgated, the expurgated dates of Exhibits A and B are prior to August 8, 2002.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein are of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.



Alastair Dent

04-01-11
Date

EXHIBIT A

ms

EXHIBIT A

REDACTED

-----Original Message-----

From: AlastairDent@cs.com [mailto:AlastairDent@cs.com]

Sent: REDACTED

To: p.gomes@ic.ac.uk

Subject: Acrobat

Paula/

Attached one pic. showing assembly of Acrobot horizontal axis screw etc.
Had some hiatus with main bearings but now all OK.

I've spoken to David today with a view to bringing assembly so far down to you early next week. Dates discussed were Mon. Tues. or Wed. I can't do [REDACTED], but either of the other two OK. You'll get to see it in whatever state it is in at that point!

So far as cables are concerned, I will investigate recommended type for servos.
Encoder read heads come with their own cable.
Cable to force sensor will require 8 cores: Supply and ground (100mA) + 6 individual channels each carrying 0-5V output analogue. There is no 'box' required between the sensor and the A/D card; but the computer has to apply the transformation matrix to the 6-channel data to resolve it into the 6-axis information.

More news as it arises.

Regards,

Alastair Dent

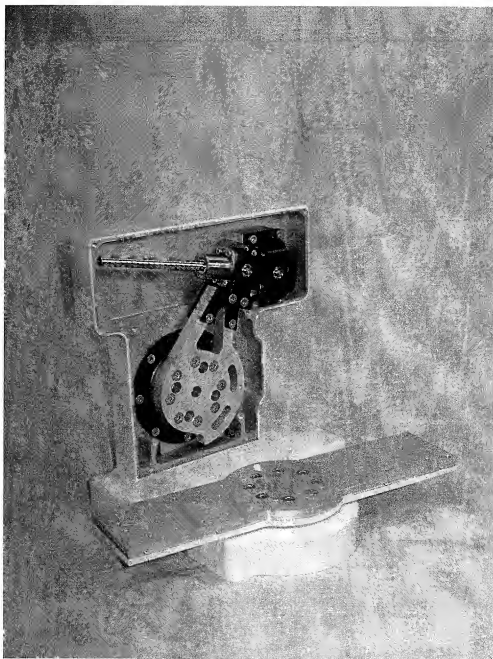


EXHIBIT B

REDACTED

-----Original Message-----

From: AlastairDent@aol.com [mailto:AlastairDent@aol.com]

Sent: REDACTED

To: p.gomes@ic.ac.uk

Subject: Acrobat Picture

Dear Paula,

I hope you are having an interesting time in US. England today is a depressed place of course!

I attach a JPEG file for you. It's not a studio shot, but I hope you will find it useful in any discussions you may have.

See you next week.

Regards,

Alastair

